

JUL 6 1960

STATINTL

Onassis Rejects Soviet Plea to Take Oil to Cuba

MONTE CARLO, July 5

(AP).—Greek shipping executive Aristotle Onassis said today the Soviet Union asked him to transport oil to Cuba but that he refused.

Mr. Onassis said he had also had Russian offers to carry oil to other countries, presumably to free Soviet tankers for runs to Cuba. "We have refused all of these propositions," Mr. Onassis said.

Cuba seized the three foreign refineries in Cuba—owned by Esso Standard of New Jersey, Texaco and British - Dutch Shell—after they refused to refine the Soviet oil. Cuba is getting in exchange for sugar.

Earlier this week, Stavros Niarchos, who also owns a big tanker fleet, denied reports that he was transporting Soviet oil to Cuba. Mr. Niarchos and Mr. Onassis are brothers-in-law as well as business rivals.

CPYRGHT